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ABSTRACT

This selected and annotated list of publications includes those pieces published between 1969 and 1979 which treat various aspects of OCLC. They were chosen on the basis of their historical value, their current relevancy, and the amount of new information they contain. Titles are arranged alphabetically by author. (FM)

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A BIBLIOGRAPHIC GUIDE TO OCLC

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Within the past decade, the OCLC emerged as the most important national library network in the United States. Along with its explosive growth came hundreds of publications describing and analyzing the various actitivies of the OCLC. It is a time-consuming process to anyone to go through all these publications to extract needed information.

An attempt has been made in this bibliography to select and abstract more relevant publications. The publications listed here provide sufficient information on every aspect of OCLC. The publications were selected using three criteria: (1) historical value; (2) current relevancy; and (3) amount of new information.

Out of hundreds of publications on the OCLC from 1969 to 1979, only those that met one or more of the above three criteria were selected and abstracted. Whenever possible, if a publication is intended for a specific audience (e.g. automation librarians, catalogers, etc.) it is so identified.

These publications provide solid information on the OCLC up to 1979. For future authoritative information on the OCLC, the following publications would be useful:

(1) OCLC annual reports

(2) OCLC newsletter

(3) Illinois OCLC users group newsletter

Barrentine, J. K. A computer-based interlibrary loan communications subsystem, 1977. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 145 861).

This paper describes how the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) component of the OCLC makes resources sharing possible among the OCLC member libraries. It gives an overview of the ILL system as well as files, search strategies and record creation and manipulation. It also contains a list of possible error messages and actions to be taken when one or more of these messages is displayed by the system.

This and a related publication Interlibrary Loan Communications Subsystem: Users Manual (ED 145 859) are must readings for the librarian in charge of interlibrary loans.

CAPCON. OCLC technical bulletin checklist. Columbus, Ohio: Ohio College Library Center, 1978.

This is an annotated bibliography of 34 bulletins published by the OCLC through February, 1979. Each bulletin was published to meet specific communications needs such as new enhancements and modifications to the OCLC system. Some bulletins are obsolete. Those that are still usable are identified by an asterisk. These bulletins provide a historical perspective on the evolution of OCLC.

Deal, P. N. A study of centralized processing for school media centers. Drexel Library Quarterly. 1977, 13(2), 80-90.

This is a report of a study which compared several methods of cataloging including the OCLC in a centralized processing facility for a number of

school media centers. It also evaluates different methods of using the OCLC. The relative practicality and cost effective analysis of each method are also provided.

Debenham, W. S., Rastogi, K., & Schieber, P. OCLC public use terminals, Columbus, Ohio: OCLC, 1976.

The purpose of this study was to determine the feasibility of replacing the traditional card catalog with the OCLC terminals. The study was conducted by observing the use of OCLC terminals by patrons at a number of academic and public libraries.

Data from the 308 participants of this study indicated that, in general, the participants had little or no trouble in using the terminal. This study casts doubt on the prevailing notion among librarians that a majority of library patrons do not possess skills to use computer terminals. On the other hand, in this study data were collected from only the patrons who used the terminals, not from all the patrons who visited the libraries during the study period. It was quite possible that only more adventureous souls might have used the computer terminals while others used the traditional card catalog. Consequently, the findings of this study may not be applicable to all library patrons.

Evans, G. T., & et al. Collection development analysis using OCLC archival tapes. 1977. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 152 299).

This describes a set of computer programs developed to perform a variety of analyses on the OCLC archival tapes. The main purpose of these

programs is to extract appropriate data from the tapes and provide information on the collection development process to the library administrators. These programs were tested using archival tapes from different institutions. Outputs from these programs were analyzed and found to be useful by an advisory group of academic librarians. The conclusion was that these programs provide valuable and important management information about a library collection development program.

Gross, M. OCLC cataloging experiment at Temple University. Pennsylvania Library Association Bulletin. 1973, 28, 109-113.

This is an account of a one year experiment conducted at Temple University to determine whether the OCLC system can be incorporated into a large library operation without too much disruption of workflow. The results indicate that OCLC can be economically and efficiently integrated into large library operations with careful planning.

Hewitk, J. The impact of OCLC. American Libraries. 1976, 7(5), 268-275.

The material for this paper came from the author's doctoral dissertation. The purpose of this study was to assess the impact of OCLC on academic libraries. More specifically, the study was concerned with determining to what extent OCLC was being used in interlibrary loans, acquisition work, and in cataloging. Data was gathered by the author from some 47 libraries in Ohio who were members of the OCLC at the time of this study.

The findings indicate that the OCLC did not radically change the interlibrary loan patterns among member libraries and did not result in a greater cooperative acquisition program. It did speed up the cataloging process and

reduced the number of cataloging staff at certain member libraries. The librarians who have used OCLC are favorably disposed toward it.

It appears to be the first systematic study on the impact of OCLC. We cannot be certain of its findings unless it is replicated several times at various geographic regions. Also, this study failed to consider the levels of cataloging done at various institutions. While OCLC may speed up certain types of cataloging (e.g. taking an OCLC entry as is without any local modifications), it may not equally speed up all other types of cataloging.

Holley, R. P. & Flecker, D. Processing OCLC-MARC subscription tapes at Yale University. Journal of Library Automation. 1979, 12(1), 88-91.

This article describes procedures applied by the Yale University Library in processing archival tapes to eliminate duplicate records and produce a cumulative master file where each record is represented only once.

This is a useful article for the automation and system librarians. The information presented here should save considerable time in handling the problems associated with OCLC-MARC tapes.

Hopkins, J. The Ohio College Library Center. Library Resources and Technical Services. 1973, 17, 308-319.

This was one of the earlier papers that attempted to describe how the OCLC system works without going into a lot of technical jargon. It was addressed to librarians who did not have any computer background. The emphasis was on how the system can help the average librarian to carry out his or her responsibilities. At the time this paper was prepared, the

author was working as the bibliographic editor of OCLC. Consequently, much of the information presented was very authoritative and accurate, though some portions of it have been made obsolete by more recent developments.

Horner, W. C. Processing OLC-MARC subscription tapes at North Carolina State University. Journal of Library Automation. 1979, 12(1), 91-94.

D. H. Hill Library at North Carolina State University is apparently subscribing to both OCLC and MARC tapes. This paper describes techniques employed by the library in merging these two files to create a machine readable file of its holdings without any duplicate records.

This should be read by all automation and systems librarians undertaking similar projects so that the time required to implement this type of project can be reduced.

Jacobs, B. Basic background on OCLC: a selected bibliography. American Libraries. 1976, 7(5), 267.

This is an annotated bibliography of 14 items published from 1969 to 1976. The annotations range from a couple of lines to complete paragraphs. Why these particular publications were chosen is not clear.

Kilgour, F. G. Computer based systems, a new dimension to library cooperation. College and Research Libraries. 1973, 34, 137-143.

In this article Mr. Kilgour outlines the advantages and disadvantages of computer based library cooperative efforts. Drawing on his experience

as the executive director of the OCLC, Mr. Kilgour illustrates how the computer can facilitate interlibrary cooperation. He also points out some of the difficult organizational problems which must be coped with in developing a computer-based cooperative system.

Kilgour, F. G. Evolving, computerizing, personalizing. American Libraries. 1972, 3, 141-147.

In somewhat of a philosophical tone, Mr. Kilgour explains how computer technology can improve access to library materials and reduce processing costs. He also discusses some problems associated with man-machine interface and how such problems can be alleviated. Most of the information presented here is repetition of the author's earlier works.

Kilgour, F. G. Initial system design for the Ohio College Library Center: a case history. In Processings of the 1968 Clinic on Library Applications of Data Processing. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois, Graduate School of Library Science, 1969. 79-88.

In this paper, Mr. Kilgour traces the history of OCLC beginning in 1951 and ending with its incorporation as a not-for-profit organization on July 16, 1967. It outlines much of the struggle the OCLC went through before its emergence as a national system. It is interesting to note that, in this paper, OCLC was envisioned only as a regional system serving the libraries of Ohio, not as a national system as it turned out to be a decade later.

It provides a good basic background of OCLC.

Kilgour, F. G. The Ohio College Library Center: a user oriented system. In Josey, E. J. New directions for academic library services. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow, 1975, 250-255.

This article is devoted to popularizing the OCLC. It presents a glossy picture of the advantages offered by the OCLC to all types of library users. Particularly the benefits of interlibrary loan, remote catalog access, and online subject and title access are emphasized.

Kilgour, F. G. A regional network--Ohio College Library Center. Datamation. 1970, 16(2), 87-89.

In this brief article the author describes how OCLC functions and what advantages it can offer to the library community. This article was intended primarily for the data processing administrators; consequently, there is a good deal of information on the cataloging procedures at the academic libraries prior to the OCLC. Though it appeared in a technical magazine, it is not a technical article. Rather, it presents an overview of the OCLC to data processing professionals.

Kilgour, F. G., and et al. The shared cataloging system of the Ohio College Library Center. Journal of Library Automation, 1972, 5, 157-183.

This is a semitechnical report on design and implementation of the OCLC online shared cataloging and offline catalog card production subsystem. Topics discussed include design features of the system, justification of the equipment used, file organization and reliability of the online system. Some details of the online cataloging are also given. There is a 16 item bibliography at the end of this paper.

Kilgour, F. G. & Hillis, D. D. The development of a computerized regional library system. Columbus, Ohio: OCLC, 1973. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 080 117).

This and related ERIC reports ED 080 118 through ED 080 123 provide rather a comprehensive documentation on the origin, development, philosophy, and operational experience of the OCLC.

It explains how the OCLC was designed as a computerized regional library system to provide on-line access to the cataloging data for the students and faculty members of the participating institutions.

It also provides a rather detailed description of the system, its hardware and its software. It also describes various subcomponents of the OCLC system. This is a must reading for automation and systems librarians. It should be pointed out that some of the software described here was subsequently changed. Other than that, it still is a good document on the basic design of OCLC.

Meyer, R. W. & Knapp, J. F. Com Catalog based on OCLC records. Journal of Library Automation. 1975, 8, 312-21.

The paper describes a system developed at the University of Texas-Dallas, to generate computer output microfiche from the OCLC archival tapes. Detailed information on the development and operation of the system is given. There is no data on the costs of the system.

Meyer, R. & Panelta, R. Two shared cataloging data bases: a comparison. College and Research Libraries. 1977, 3(1), 19-23.

In this paper, the OCLC data base was compared with the Blackwell North America (B/NA). The conclusions were: (1) The OCLC data base

was much larger and provided cataloging data for more titles than the B/NA did. (2) The B/NA data base contained some unique records that were not available in the OCLC. (3) The B/NA was less expensive to use as compared to the OCLC. (4) The B/NA provided many services comparable in quality to the OCLC.

Morita, I. & Gafen, D. K. A cost analysis of the Ohio College Library Center on-line shared cataloging system in the Ohio State University Libraries. Library Resources and Technical Services. 1977, 21, 286-302.

This study compares costs associated with the various cataloging processes at the OSU Libraries, before and after the introduction of OCLC. In general, an increase in production has been seen. Unit costs, however, did not go down as well as expected.

Murkson, B. E. The Ohio College Library Center: a study of factors affecting the adaptation of libraries to on-line networks. Library Technology Reports. 1976, 12, 11-132.

It is an evaluative research study sponsored by the Indiana State Library and the U. S. Office of Education. The purpose of the study was to determine to what extent the OCLC can meet the needs of library services in the State of Indiana. Its findings, however, can be applied to any group of libraries.

Even before this study, the author acquired considerable reputation in the field of library automation through her perceptive analysis of the processes involved. This excellent up-to-date study answers such questions as why do libraries join networks? How have on-line operations affected costs,

staffing, production, and work flow? How has the transition to on-line operations been handled? Do staff like or dislike use of a cathode ray tube for file access?

There is also a considerable history on the development of the OCLC at the beginning of the study. It is addressed primarily to library administrators. This would be a must reading for each library administrator who is planning on using the OCLC system.

Nitecki, J. Z. OCLC in retrospect: a review of the impact of a large university technical services operations. University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science Occasional Papers. 1976, (no. 123).

This paper describes how the Temple University Library interfaced with the OCLC through PALINET. With detailed flowcharts, it shows how the technical services staff use the OCLC and documents their operational experience with the system. There is considerable discussion on the pros and cons of the OCLC related to shared cataloging, original cataloging, processing problems and catalog card production based on the author's experience with the OCLC since 1972.

This paper is directed primarily toward the administrators of academic libraries. It should prove to be a valuable planning aid for the academic libraries which plan on joining the OCLC system. There are a number of tables which give time and cost statistics on various phases of the OCLC terminal operation. There is a good bibliography at the end.

OCLC-MARC subscription service documentation. 3rd ed. Columbus, Ohio: OCLC, 1978.

This document is supplied to all institutions who subscribe to the OCLC archival tapes. It provides all the necessary information for the programmers to process these tapes. It is kept up-to-date with periodic newsletter-type updates.

Ohio College Library Center. Design of formats and packs of catalog cards. Columbus, Ohio: Ohio State University Libraries, 1973.

This manual describes how to specify one's own requirements in regard to the catalog card production by the OCLC. There are several examples of how to specify requirements and the results of those specifications.

Ohio College Library Center. Interlibrary loan communications sybsystem: users manual. 1976. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 145 589).

This is a training manual put out by the OCLC on how to use its ILL subsystem. It includes a glossary of terms related to the procedures in using the system. Detailed instructions and suitable examples are provided on computer entry, searching, loan request form, loan response form, ILL procedures, the special message feature, and system error checking.

It is a valuable training aid to the ILL staff using OCLC. The same information is also available on a video cassette.

Ohio College Library Center. On-line cataloging. Columbus, Ohio: Ohio State University Libraries, 1973.

This is a must publication for each cataloger using the OCLC. It is designed as an instructional manual. It describes the various operating

features of the OCLC terminal and then step-by-step takes the reader into on-line cataloging. It also provides information on how to use the various services offered by the OCLC.

Plotnik, A. OCLC for you--and me? !: a humanized anatomy for beginners. American Libraries. 1976, 7(5), 258-267.

This is a somewhat simplified explanation of OCLC addressed primarily to the people who have not yet used the system. The author set out to solve the mystery of OCLC. However, when he attended a few meetings on the subject, he "understood little except that the lives of more and more librarians across the nation were being not touched, but changed by the mysterious OCLC." Subsequently, the author went directly to the source, Mr. Kilgour, executive director of OCLC, to unravel the mystery.

Through a series of interviews with Mr. Kilgour and other OCLC staff members, the author presents the history, philosophy, operational characteristics and future directions of OCLC. This should be an excellent first reading for anyone who is not familiar with OCLC.

Rubenstein, N. F. The Ohio College Library Center: a practical bibliography. Tiffin, Ohio: Heidelberg College, 1974.

This is a seven page bibliography of 107 books, periodical articles, government documents and ERIC microfiche. No annotations are provided. It is a comprehensive bibliography on the OCLC and related computer developments up to 1974. Entries are alphabetically arranged under each of the following categories: (1) library networks and the computer; (2) history

and development of the OCLC network; and (3) machine readable cataloging with the OCLC system.

This should be the first tool of consultation for anyone doing research on the OCLC.

Stevens, N. D. Modernizing OCLC's governance. Library Journal. 1977, 102, 2216-19.

This report is based on the author's management audit of the OCLC organization, impact on other libraries, and its performance. Many of the suggestions made in this report were subsequently implemented by the OCLC, the most important being the OCLC incorporating itself as "OCLC Inc."

This report should be very useful for other administrators of large scale data bases.

Strozik, T. Guidelines for establishing personnel, terminal and workflow requirements, SUNY, n.d.

This is primarily a planning document developed for one of the SUNY libraries. It provides systematic analysis of what type of personnel are needed to perform various functions and some suggestions on how to organize for a better workflow around OCLC terminals. It should be very useful for any academic library contemplating on using the OCLC terminals.

Tishe, R. L. & Levine, J. J. On-line shared cataloging in NELINET libraries. 1976. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 140 773).

This is a report of a survey conducted to determine how the NELINET libraries were using the OCLC. The purpose of the survey is to provide

comparative data from various member libraries within NELINET. Items compared are: parent institution, type and size library, budget, staff size, and annual acquisitions.

This survey's results should be useful to the libraries wishing to join OCLC in general; and it is especially a useful report for the libraries wishing to join the NELINET. The survey instrument appears to be well designed and it can be used by other library networks to obtain similar data.

Yen, S. S. C. Question and answer guide to OCLC. 1978. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 151 023).

This provides basic factual data about the OCLC, its data base, its operation, and its functions in question and answer format. It should serve as a quick reference guide to the OCLC. Appendices contain a list of selected readings on the subject and the OCLC charges for its various services.

Weber, E. S. A problem-solving manual for OCLC serials catalogers. 1977. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED 139 410).

This workbook is designed to train serials catalogers in acquiring on-line cataloging skills. It uses drill and practice methods to introduce a serials cataloger to the basic operating features of OCLC and gradually takes the cataloger into sophisticated processes in serials cataloging.

This is a valuable training and reference aid to the serials catalogers who wish to use OCLC.